



NEWS RELEASE

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WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORMER JACKSON COUNTY MAN INDICTED FOR MURDER RELATED TO METH TRAFFICKING

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced today that a former Jackson County, Mo., man has been indicted by a federal grand jury for the 1998 murder of an Independence, Mo., man to prevent the victim from cooperating with law enforcement authorities investigating illegal methamphetamine trafficking.

John Street, 42, formerly of Jackson County, was charged in a three-count indictment returned under seal by a federal grand jury in Kansas City on Sept. 10, 2004. That indictment has been unsealed and made public.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Street** intentionally killed Douglas C. Weil of Independence while **Street** was engaged in the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine between May 1, 1997 and Feb. 5, 1998.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Street** used a firearm to murder Weil. **Street** allegedly possessed the firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime – the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine. The indictment alleges that the killing of Weil was done with malice aforethought and that Weil's murder was willful, deliberate, malicious, premeditated, and committed in the perpetration of a drug-trafficking crime.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Street** killed Weil with the intent to prevent Weil from communicating with a law enforcement officer about the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine.

Under federal statutes, **Street** could be subject to a sentence of life imprisonment or execution if convicted of the charges contained in the indictment. According to Graves, a determination whether to seek the death penalty in this case has not yet been made.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The public's assistance is being sought in this case. Anyone who may have information related to the investigation is asked to contact the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department Cold Case Squad at 816-234-5330.

This case is being prosecuted by Deputy U.S. Attorney Matt Whitworth and Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, the Metro Meth Drug Task Force, the Jackson County Drug Task Force, and the Independence, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow